



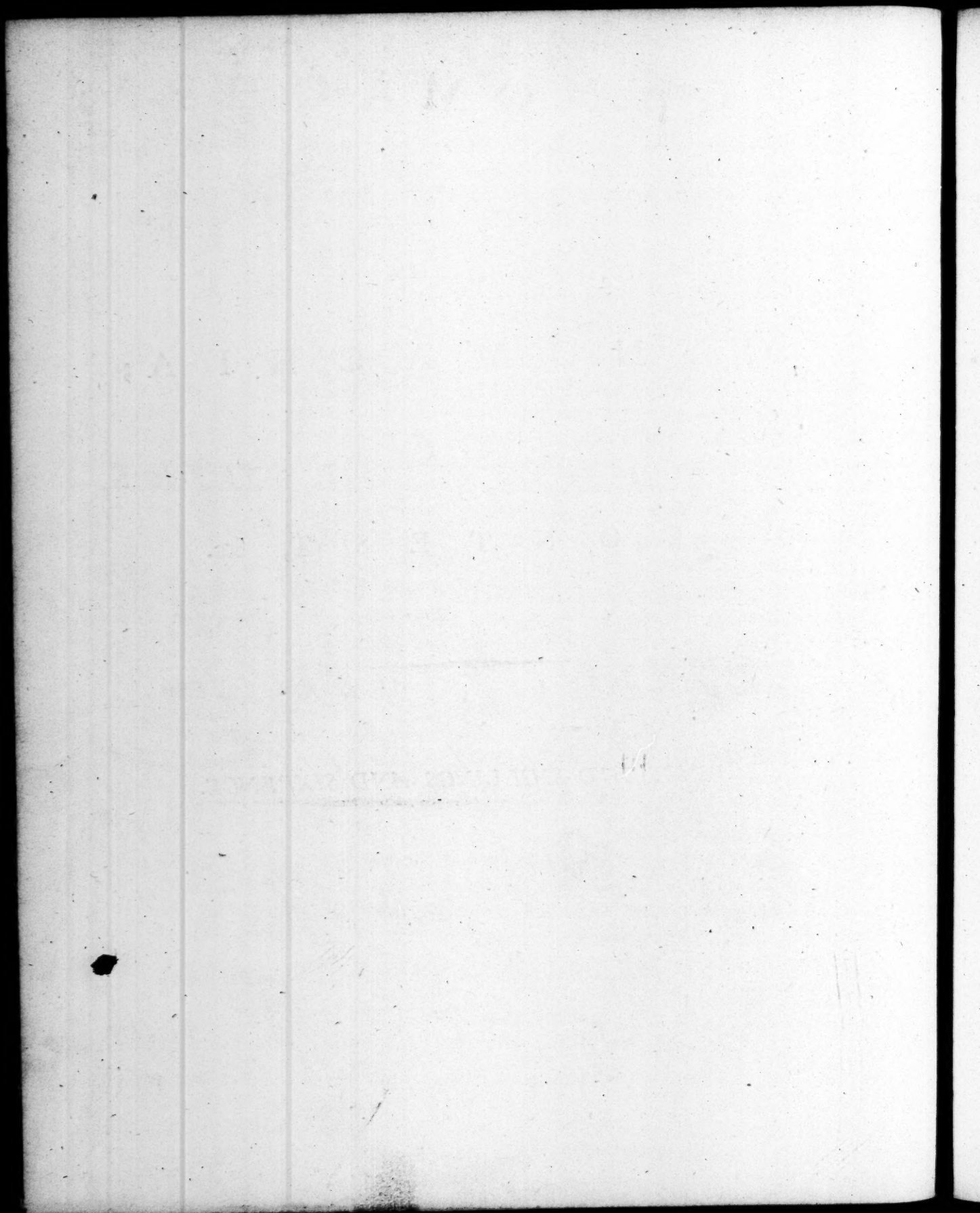


G Y N O M A C H I A ;

OR A

C O N T E S T, &c.

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.



GYNOMACHIA;

OR, A

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CONTEST

BETWEEN

TWO OLD LADIES,

IN THE SERVICE OF

A CELEBRATED ORATOR.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED AT THE LOGOGRAPHIC PRESS,

AND SOLD BY

J. WALTER, No. 169, OPPOSITE OLD BOND-STREET, PICCADILLY; C. STALKER,
STATIONER'S-COURT, LUDGATE-STREET; AND W. RICHARDSON, UNDER THE
ROYAL-EXCHANGE.



GYNOMACHIA, &c.

YE Sophs, ye Diviners, ye Dreamers profound,
Who dream all your lives, and who dreams can expound,
This letter to you I respectfully fend,
And beg you'll explain what my visions portend.
I dreamt that my soul did my body forsake,
And was newly arriv'd at the Stygian Lake,
Where among the strange fights that engag'd my attention,
Was this, which I think well deserving of mention.
Two feminine figures appear'd to my sight,
One cloathed in black, and the other in white.
One appear'd by her phyzz to be forty or more,
The other seem'd older, at least by a score.

At first I conceiv'd they were Billingsgate Jades,
 Disputing their rank and precedence of trades.
 At a distance I heard them each other abusing,
 One boldly defending, one fiercely accusing.
 All the ghosts on the banks were alarm'd by the 'clatter,
 And ran like a mob, to know what was the matter.
 Then CHARON came forward, and question'd the dames
 Concerning their business, their dwellings and names.
 The older reply'd, " We are humble dependants
 " On Orator BURKE, and his constant attendants.
 " MORAL CONSCIENCE the name that is given to me,
 " And Master's POLITICAL CONSCIENCE is she.
 " Since the day Master quitted the FERULE and RULE,
 " Disdaining an Usher's employment at school ;
 " Since the day he commenc'd his political race,
 " Has POLITICAL CONSCIENCE robb'd me of my place.
 " It distresses my feelings, and humbles my pride,
 " My Rival to see his perpetual Guide,
 " Whilst Master lays me and my counsel aside.
 " Scarce once in twelve months am I suffer'd to speak,
 " While he listens to her by the day and the week,

" And

" And if for a moment, I venture to put
 " In a word, I am call'd an impertinent flut.
 " But as duty commands, I am often intruding,
 " And she and my Master as often excluding,
 " For I never will cease, till I fully recover
 " My right, and take place, when in council, above her.
 " And now if your honour no injury mean us,
 " I beg you will hear, and pass sentence between us.
 Then CHARON thus answer'd: " It never can suit
 " A Boatswain to settle so nice a dispute.
 " But if it will give both your ladyships pleasure,
 " The river to cross, and if MINOS have leisure,
 " His Lordship, I'm certain, no trouble will grudge,
 " A case so uncommon to hear and adjudge."
 The Rivals embark'd, and in hopes of much sport,
 I follow'd with others to MINOS's court.
 When his lordship juridical sitting on high,
 Saw the ladies so largely attended draw nigh;
 He sent out his sheriff, his tipstaff and cryer,
 To keep off the croud, and their business enquire.
 Then CHARON stepp'd forward in front of the croud,
 Made up to the bar, and respectfully bow'd:

" My lord, I must your pardon pray,
 " For what I am about to say.
 " I saw just now on yonder shore,
 " A sight I never saw before.
 " Your lordship says, it's very rare
 " To find one Conscience; but a pair
 " Is more than any mortal's share.
 " Yet though 'tis strange, 'tis no less true,
 " That EDMUND BURKE possesses two;
 " But if my lord will hear these dames,
 " They'll tell their functions and their names.
 " It seems, though both to one belong,
 " They always think each other wrong,
 " They wrangled in a high degree,
 " And then refer'd the case to me.
 " I chose the office to decline,
 " It being foreign to my line.
 " And therefore humbly now entreat,
 " You'll hear them at your judgment seat."

Then MINOS commanded the ladies to tell
 Who they were, and the cause of their visiting hell.

The judge had scarce spoke the last syllable, when
 The ladies began like two Parliament men;
 Who fond of displaying their eloquence, burn
 In the flames of their speech, till it comes to their turn:
 Who thinking they've something important to say,
 Curse the member that's speaking for needless delay,
 And the moment he ends, begin pleading away:
 Then the chairman with sternness remark'd, 'twas a crime,
 Against Parliament law to speak two at a time.
 And the judge gave the ladies a gentle reproof,
 By observing, one Speaker at once was enough.
 But now there arises another dispute,
 As to who should be Speaker, and who should be mute.
 (MORAL CONSCIENCE henceforth I denominate MOLL,
 And POLITICAL CONSCIENCE I shorten to POLL.)
 In support of her claim, MOLL with reason averr'd,
 That she, as the eldest, ought first to be heard;
 While POLL, as the younger, declar'd she would rest
 Her claim upon merit, as speaking the best.
 After some slight reflection, Judge MINOS decreed,
 That MOLL should begin; so he bade her proceed.

Poor POLL with resentment was ready to burst,
 To think that her rival was listen'd to first.
 How diff'rent above did the Orator treat her !
 POLL's influence there had been constantly greater.
 She remember'd that MOLL was struck frequently dumb
 By a frown, or the short monosyllable, mum !
 But since his inflexible Worship thought fit
 To hear MOLL's harangue, she was forc'd to submit.
 Then the Cryer call'd " Silence ! keep silence, I say,
 " Upon pain of commitment." All hear and obey.

As when some Orator, like MAWBAY, great
 In elocution, joins the grave debate,
 All with emotion view the Knight arising,
 Sure to hear something curious and surprizing ;
 Some state improvement, or some grand design,
 Some cheaper, better mode of feeding swine ;
 A gen'ral silence reigns thro' all the crowd,
 Not e'en the softest whisper is allow'd ;
 Silence like this the judgment-hall pervades,
 And expectation's rais'd in all the shades.

Thus

Thus MOLLY began : “ To your Lordship I owe
 “ Many thanks for the manifold favours you show :
 “ But lest it be thought in your servant a crime
 “ To take up too much of a magistrate’s time,
 “ Without any further delay, I proceed
 “ To prove POLL a monster,—a monster indeed !
 “ And when the black Lady is clearly convicted,
 “ No doubt but just punishment will be inflicted.

“ My Lord, it was Nature’s original plan
 “ To give but one Conscience to one single man.
 “ ’Twas long ere the difference was well understood
 “ Betwixt *Moral Right* and *Political Good*.
 “ But the Statesman, the Casuist, the Judge, the Divine,
 “ The Citizen too, in opinion combine,
 “ That having the National Good in one’s eye,
 “ One may, for the time, lay Morality by.
 “ But no man, however audacious, pretends
 “ That he may do the same to promote his own ends.
 “ To one Master, my Lord, we two Women belong,
 “ Whom I strive to lead right, and she strives to lead wrong.

“ EDMUND

“ EDMUND BURKE’S MORAL CONSCIENCE, my Lord, is my name,
 “ His POLITICAL CONSCIENCE is she, to her shame.
 “ If that footy-fac’d dame would her duty discharge,
 “ She would study the good of the nation at large :
 “ But instead of so doing, her counsel still tends
 “ To promote Master’s selfish, iniquitous ends.”
 As MOLL this account of the parties was giving,
 She was ask’d by the Judge, if her Master was living.
 She answer’d him, “ Yes :” Then Judge MINOS said : “ Tell
 “ For what purpose you Ladies descended to hell ?”
 MOLL answer’d, “ My Master is frequently sick,
 “ And I take that advantage to give him a prick.
 “ I place all the horrors of hell in his view,
 “ And as long as he’s sick, he believes they are true :
 “ But as soon as his health takes a turn for the best,
 “ POLL comes, and persuades him the whole is a jest.
 “ At this instant my Master believes he’s so ill,
 “ As to set at defiance all medical skill :
 “ Two days and two nights POLL and I have disputed,
 “ Without either confuting, or being confuted :
 “ My Master at length, to determine the case,
 “ Sent us both to find out if there be such a place.”

Here

Here the Judge interrupted the Lady, to ask

If to find the true road was a difficult task ?

MOLL answer'd him : " No : were I perfectly blind,

" The way were sufficiently easy to find :

" One has nothing to do but to follow the throng

" That are posting this way, and will lead us along."

" Inform me," said MINOS, " of what you intend

" By this accusation, and where it will end."

MOLL reply'd, " should I have the good fortune to cast her

" Entirely from out of the breast of my Master,

" And for ever exclude the false guide from his sight,

" There would be some chance of my leading him right.

" Or perhaps, if your Lordship approve, 'twere as well

" Now she's here, to detain her for ever in hell.

" My Master undoubtedly then would be fav'd,

" And dishonour'd no more by connexions deprav'd."

" The case is quite novel," Judge MINOS reply'd :

" I must speak with my breth'ren before I decide."

From the Court then the Justice infernal withdrew,

To consult RADAMANTHUS, and EACUS too.

After some short debate, he return'd to his place,
To declare what the bench had adjudg'd in the case.

“ The actions of POLL to the Court are offensive,
“ And the evil thereof must be very extensive.
“ But as no common law, and no statute can reach her ;
“ The Court think it proper that MOLL should impeach her,
“ But not to depart from the form of the laws,
“ Let the Clerk make a Rule out for POLL to shew cause.”

POLL was serv'd with a Rule, when without hesitation
She instantly rose, and began an oration.

“ My Lord, by your Lordship's indulgence, I trust
“ I shall prove ev'ry charge to be false and unjust.
“ But if I speak now, it must be on condition,
“ No advantage be drawn from unguarded admission ;
“ That whilst I my conduct proceed to defend,
“ I may say and unsay, as it answers my end.
“ And since at this Tribunal I am to be try'd,
“ Let me ask by what law will your Lordship decide ?
“ That is, if your Lordship examine the cause
“ By *Morality*, or by *Political Laws* ?

“ For

" For, indeed, I should think it exceedingly hard,
 " Were I try'd by those laws I'm not us'd to regard.
 " Political people are seldom such fools,
 " As their conduct to square by Morality's rules ;
 " And in this very Court I've been frequently told
 " Men are try'd by the faith and the tenets they hold.
 " Then let not my foe to impeachment proceed,
 " Till your Lordship has heard my POLITICAL CREED."
 MINOS nodded assent. POLL respectfully bow'd ;
 And opening a Book, began reading aloud.

THE WHIG'S CREED.

" They whose faith is orthodox,
 " All their trust repose in FOX.
 " Saint CHARLES only they must know,
 " God's Vicegerent here below.
 " He in darkness spreadeth light :
 " He converteth wrong to right :
 " 'Tis his place to judge alone
 " 'Twixt the people and the throne ;
 " Clip Administration's wings,
 " And prerogative of Kings.

- “ Give Saint CHARLES the Premier's place,
- “ Let prerogative increafe :
- “ Whigs have nothing then to dread,
- “ If the Monarch will be led.
- “ Put the cash in CHARLES's care,
- “ Whigs will have an ample share.
- “ If his Majesty displace him,
- “ Shut the door, and so disgrace him.
- “ Make the people think the King,
- “ A cypher, or an uselefs thing.
- “ From the father part the son,
- “ If by art it can be done.
- “ All the rigid moral rules,
- “ Such as boys are taught at schools ;
- “ All that books of Scripture teach,
- “ And ecclesiastics preach ;
- “ Disregard them ev'ry word ;
- “ Doctrines idle and absurd !
- “ Learn the arts of simulation,
- “ To persuade a polish'd nation,
- “ That you've public good in view,
- “ Whilst your int'rest you pursue.

“ If

more patriotic foes

- " Should your holy Saint oppose,
- " Never cease those men pursuing,
- " 'Till you work their total ruin:
- " But if guarded from perdition,
- " Form with them a *Coalition*.
- " Keep this maxim still in view,
- " *All is lawful that will do.*
- " There's no evil in a deed,
- " Except when it don't succeed."

As POLD was with energy reading her Creed,
 The passionate Judge put a stop to her speed:
 " How durst the insult this respectable Court,
 " By turning Religion and Virtue to sport?
 " A better behaviour henceforward I'll teach her.—
 " Make an absolute rule out for MOLL to impeach her."
 Then turning to MOLL:—" I expect you'll be steady,
 " And bring forth the Charges as soon as they're ready."
 With a curtsy MOLL said, " If the Court will allow,
 " I can give in at least twenty Articles now."

As the judges of hell never want to retire,
 For purposes such as we mortals require,
 Unlike our law sages, they stuff not their bellies
 With Turbot and Turtle, with Venison and Jellies;
 In Justice's cause, unremitting they toil,
 And put off no trial lest dinner should spoil;
 Nor adjourn (as we do) to give place to the Graces,
 Or for ease to their minds, to relax at the races.
 Then MOLL, by consent of Judge MINOS, began
 To bring forth her charges, and open her plan.

" My Lord, to my Master all bountiful heaven
 " Rich gifts with the hand of profusion has given.
 " At College he study'd much while he was young,
 " Where he pick'd up that rapid Gyration of tongue.
 " His wonderful knowledge, and deep erudition,
 " Made him fit for a lawyer, divine, or physician.
 " 'Twas long in debate, if to make him a preacher
 " Of the order of Jesus, or underling teacher.
 " The latter however, at length was his lot,
 " And the office of Usher the gentleman got;

- " How happy, Oh England! had then been thy fate,
 " If politics never had enter'd his pate!
 " Oh, that MARKHAM had first been translated to heaven,
 " Ere my master through him made his way to St. Stephen!
 " For from that day, the criminal now at your bar
 " Against me has been waging perpetual war.
 " She forc'd him to vote just as ROCKINGHAM bid,
 " And oppose, right or wrong, all the Minister did.
 " I accuse POLL of using her utmost endeavour,
 " The misguided child from the parent to sever.
 " On her favorite topic how oft did she dwell,
 " That the child, when it likes, has a right to rebel!
 " In the Colonies when she had kindled a flame,
 " She gave to rebellion bright Liberty's name.
 " Alas! how the mother and children did bleed,
 " In that impious war of which POLL sow'd the seed!
 " Like rivers and torrents America bled.
 " POLL ought to *atone* for, the blood that was shed;
 " The original cause, that the tomahawk knives,
 " Robb'd mothers and innocent babes of their lives.
 " GREAT BRITAIN'S posterity ne'er can forget,
 " How that war more than doubled the national debt.

" How

- “ How many poor widows and orphans on earth
 “ Curse the day or the night that gave EDMUND BURKE birth!
 “ How many young spinsters this day had been married,
 “ If when breeding, the mother of BURKE had miscarry'd!
 “ The distress under which his poor Country is sinking,
 “ Sprung from POLL's diabolical manner of thinking.
 “ If of what I have said, the court ask for a proof,
 “ Each Village in England, will furnish enough.
 “ But why talk of proof, since your lordship knows well,
 “ MORAL CONSCIENCE a lye cannot possibly tell.
 “ On this subject, my lord, I'll no longer enlarge,
 “ But wait till the culprit has answer'd the charge.
 “ One favor, my lord, I have further to pray,
 “ That POLL from the truth be not suffer'd to stray;
 “ That when to my charges the culprit replies,
 “ They be not *wash'd* away by a torrent of lies.”
 Then the Judge spoke to POLL, “ Be you cautious in diction,
 “ Nor offer before this tribunal a fiction:
 “ One falsehood intended, completes your conviction.
 “ And know that a judge's infallible eye,
 “ At one glance can distinguish the truth from a lye.

By

By these words of his Lordship poor POLL seem'd confounded,
 And twisted about like a snake that is wounded.
 Those flipp'ry tricks that were wont to avail her
 In *Saint Stephen's Chapel*, in *Erebus* fail her:
 On her impudence now she's compell'd to rely,
 And justify facts which she dare not deny.
 Awhile by embarrassment POLL was impeded,
 At length she recover'd, and thus she proceeded:

“ My Lord, I submit to your Excellence, whether
 “ I shall answer to this, or all charges together.”
 After some little argument, MINOS decreed,
 POLL now should reply, so he bade her proceed.
 “ My Lord, I presume that I safely may venture
 “ To say that *self* is of attraction the center ;
 “ That the man must needs be an unnatural elf,
 “ That fails in the least to take care of himself ;
 “ And nature herself has implanted in man,
 “ A wish to get all that he possibly can.
 “ If the counsel I gave to the Orator fitted
 “ His fortune, in justice I must be acquitted :
 “ Nay more ; if my counsels have constantly tended
 “ To his int'rest alone, I must needs be commended ;

- " Nor will a just Judge think my merit the less,
 " Though my schemes have too frequently fail'd of success.
 " If I fairly make out my intentions were good,
 " And that for my Master I did all I cou'd,
 " Whate'er be the event, then acknowledge you must,
 " I, like a good servant, was true to my trust.
 " The servants who justly their duty discharge,
 " Serve their Master *alone*, not the Public at large :
 " And on this point it is we so warmly contend ;
 " She the *Public* would serve, I my Master befriend :
 " She wants him to study the good of the State,
 " I wish to take care about something to eat.
 " My Master was born without noble connection,
 " Nor bask'd in the sunshine of Royal protection.
 " Even now had he been of Plebeian degree,
 " Unnotic'd without the assistance of me.
 " His honour, and glory, my counsels advance,
 " And I hope very soon to improve his finance ;
 " Though I have not as yet overloaded his purse,
 " His state without me had been fifty times worse.
 " Had I not got the better of MOLL's superstition,
 " He had never transcended an Usher's condition ;
 " Had he listen'd to MOLLY's fantastical tales,
 " He had still been as poor as a Curate in Wales.

- “ Were the Orator no other line to pursue
 “ Than what MORAL CONSCIENCE directs him to do ;
 “ From the path mark’d by her were he never to swerve,
 “ In spite of his talents, he’d certainly starve.
 “ That my principle’s right, if your Lordship should doubt,
 “ Or if MOLL should dispute, I can soon make it out :
 “ I can justify all I’ve asserted with ease,
 “ And am ready to argue the point when you please.
 “ But not to digress any more at this time,
 “ I shall briefly reply to what MOLL calls a crime.
 “ My Lord, ’twas the duty of BURKE to oppose
 “ With vigour the Marquis of ROCKINGHAM’s foes ;
 “ Not his duty alone, but his int’rest too,
 “ An object he never lets out of his view.
 “ ’Twixt mother and child when he made such a rout,
 “ His aim was to turn the then Minister out.
 “ My Master by nature is gentle and mild,
 “ And would wantonly injure no woman or child :
 “ His soul ne’er rejoices in warlike alarms,
 “ Nor wishes to shine forth a hero in arms :
 “ In lineal descent from THERSITES he sprung,
 “ And can fight, like his Sire, the best fight with his tongue.

" If the Colonies all to rebellion were driven
 " By the speeches of BURKE in the house of *St. Stephen*,
 " To rebel he had no other cause to advise 'em,
 " Save this,—that the Minister wish'd to chastise 'em.
 " If EDMUND the right of taxation deny'd,
 " 'Twas because NORTH had taken the opposite side :
 " Had NORTH sought to excuse them from paying a tax,
 " My Master had bawl'd out, block ! scaffold ! and axe !
 " For basely the int'rest of England betraying,
 " In excusing the American rebels from paying.
 " And thus I have prov'd, all the blood that was spilt,
 " Entails on my Master no manner of guilt ;
 " Or if there be guilt, all the world must agree,
 " The Minister was full as guilty as he.
 " I still urge him on to be earnest and hearty,
 " To promote the ambitious designs of his Party :
 " To prove this is right, I dictated a book,
 " Into which, at your leisure, your Lordship may look :
 " For if once a political course you begin,
 " You must follow your party through thick and through thin.
 " My defence here I rest, and to judgment resign,
 " Unless my accuser thinks fit to rejoin."
 MOLL bow'd to the court, and begg'd leave to decline.

To close the first charge here the parties agreed,
And MOLL to the second was bade to proceed.

“ I accuse POLL of having by loud declamations,
“ Driven NORTH and the Ministry all from their stations ;
“ Of persuading the people of England to think,
“ That unless NORTH went out, the whole kingdom must sink ;
“ Of demonstrating clearly to JOHN BULL’s conviction,
“ That NORTH and his party deserv’d crucifixion.
“ I say that when POLL had brought NORTH to disgrace,
“ And BURKE and his party were got into place ;
“ Their footing she thought would be stable and sound,
“ If NORTH and his friends were put under the ground.
“ Then she drew an impeachment with argument strong,
“ To prove that the traitor had liv’d much too long ;
“ That his wicked, detestable Administration,
“ Had America lost to this much injur’d nation ;
“ That his somnolent head would be poor satisfaction,
“ To atone for this cursed, and damnable action.
“ Yet at the same moment POLL very well knew,
“ That BURKE deserv’d hanging the most of the two.

“ But

“ But all on a sudden th’ impeachment was *stopp’d*,
 “ POLL saw a new light, and all enmity *dropp’d*.
 “ With this *traiterous* lord then did BURKE coalesce,
 “ Themselves to enrich, and their country distress.”
 Here ended dame MOLL, with a humble petition,
 That POLL might be damn’d for this damn’d Coalition.

MORAL CONSCIENCE no sooner had sat herself down,
 Than the Judge looking stedfast at POLL with a frown,
 Observ’d, he expected some very good reason,
Why NORTH was accus’d, but not punished for Treason.

“ If your Lordship, says POLL, will but patiently hear,
 “ For a moment or two, I shall make it appear,
 “ That the friendship and hatred my Master contracts,
 “ Aim alike at one end, though by different acts.
 “ When an office is got, ’tis as hard to maintain it,
 “ Nay, harder it frequently proves than to gain it.
 “ When I counsell’d my Master, LORD NORTH to impeach,
 “ I thought his destruction had been in my reach.
 “ If the united endeavours of EDMUND and Fox,
 “ Could have shut up LORD NORTH to Doomsday in his box,
 “ That troublesome man had been out of their way,
 “ And my Master found room for his talents to play;

“ But

" But being unable to compass that end,
 " Necessity forc'd them to make him a friend.
 " My accuser may say, that my conduct is strange,
 " Inconsistent, imprudent and subject to change ;
 " But if in her judgment I never do right,
 " MORAL CONSCIENCE, you know, has a very short fight.
 " Without order the planets apparently run,
 " Yet have regular motions when seen from the sun ;
 " So to judge of our actions, a person should enter
 " Into EDMUND's dear self, and observe from the center.
 " I have fully reply'd to this charge, I conceive,
 " And will close my defence, if your Lordship give leave."

MOLL rose up again, seeming somewhat perplex'd,
 To determine what charge to bring forward the next :
 " I fear that your Lordship will never spare time,
 " To hear a full statement of every crime :
 " But where all are so bad, to know which is the worst,
 " Which should be heard last, or which should be heard first,
 " Is hard to determine ; howe'er I'll advance,
 " And dip for the next, being guided by chance.
 " I accuse POLL of actions ignoble and base,
 " Of insulting a King, of entailing disgrace

" On a nation for liberal sentiments fam'd,
 " But now of her stinginess justly asham'd.
 " When EDMUND by POLLY's insidious art,
 " Was of Administration admitted a part ;
 " 'Twas suggested to him by that lady in fable,
 " To reduce the expence of his Majesty's table ;
 " In the senate to day at extravagance storming,
 " The next in the kitchen abuses reforming.
 " From the cook to the mate, see him hopping and skipping,
 " Now tasting the gravy, now licking the dripping.
 " The domestics on shorter allowance he puts,
 " And measures exactly the size of their guts.
 " Now down in the cellar the vessels he gauges,
 " And the butler, for drinking, is stopp'd of his wages."
 As MOLL was describing this business, the croud
 Disturb'd her narration, by laughing aloud ;
 At length she resum'd : " But, my Lord, what is worse,
 " POLL made a bold snatch at his Majesty's purse.
 " But though this economical jade was unwilling
 " To leave the sick *Father* so much as a shilling,
 " To the *Son* she was always extremely profuse,
 " And would vote all the national wealth to his use."

Her

Her pleasant oration was scarcely half done,
When POLLY her justification begun.

- “ My Lord, I admit every word to be true,
“ Much I did, and much more I attempted to do ;
“ That his Countrymen have not the smallest occasion
“ For Kings, is both mine and my Master’s persuasion.
“ And convinc’d as we are, that we never can need ’em,
“ I would ask of my enemy, why should we feed ’em.
“ But supposing the fools of this realm have a whim,
“ To be rul’d by a King, and that GEORGE should be him -
“ They should study a close economical plan,
“ And keep him as cheap as they possibly can ;
“ A million a year for a King is immense,
“ The Senate too thought it a heavy expence ;
“ And when it was voted to cut the King’s table,
“ There was none like my Master, so willing and able.
“ My accuser, my Lord, makes a crime of the measure
“ I plann’d for depriving the King of his treasure.
“ Here her judgment again is ill-founded and rash ;
“ For I meant nothing more than a transfer of cash.

D

“ Giving

- " Giving wealth to the father is absolute waste,
- " He disposeth thereof with such very bad taste.
- " In an old-fashion'd way, all the treasure he gets
- " Goes in charity, after discharging his debts ;
- " In easing his subjects of heavy expence,
- " To provide for his family many years hence.
- " But the son will distribute the money with spirit,
- " To Master, and others of similar merit.
- " The Prince and his brother our party can fleece,
- " But the father won't part with a fixpenny piece.
- " Now, I trust, I have fully explain'd why the son
- " Should millions possess, and the father have none."

Here the fable Dame stopp'd, and her rival arose,
Like a Hero determined to follow her blows.

- " I accuse POLL of making a florid harangue
- " In defence of two wretches deserving to hang ;
- " Who, without any trial, by POLL were acquitted,
- " Whilst the honour of Master was deeply committed.
- " One of them his conscience so horribly smote,
- " In a fit of despair he bisected his throat.
- " Their guilt though the wretches themselves did confess,
- " POLL deny'd it with impudence nevertheless.

" But

“ But as she well knew that the Treas’ry was rifled,
 “ She ought to account why inquiry was stifled :
 “ And your Lordship will think it incumbent upon her
 “ To account for the loss of the Orator’s honour.”

POLL hastily rose from her seat, and began :

“ I’ll answer this question as brief as I can.
 “ They were good useful men ; so my Master forgave ’em
 “ Their trifling offences, and labour’d to save ’em.
 “ But a thousand examples evince, that to rifle
 “ The public at large, is esteem’d but a trifle.
 “ And to say that an orator’s breaking his word
 “ Can injure his honour, is very absurd.
 “ Master pledges his honour ten times in a day ;
 “ And, convicted of falsehood, explains it away.
 “ Honour, credit and character, fame, reputation,
 “ Are but flowers and tropes to adorn an oration :
 “ And your men of *St Stephen’s* regard them no more,
 “ Than a song that is sung at an innkeeper’s door.”

This charge on both sides was no sooner gone through,
 Than MOLL rose again her attack to renew :

- " I accuse the dark Lady of urging on BURKE
 " To join with CHARLES FOX in iniquitous work ;
 " Of stretching an arm out, oppressive and strong,
 " To take away that which to others belong.
 " Not a fixpenny piece in the Company's stocks
 " Was the property either of EDMUND, or FOX.
 " In India Direction their right to a place,
 " Was no more than it is to the Kingdom of Grace.
 " In defiance of equity, justice, and laws,
 " Like tygers half-famish'd, they stretch'd out their paws ;
 " With violence seiz'd on the Company's charter,
 " And, Saracen-like, gave the vanquish'd no quarter.
 " Those who never had manag'd one acre of land,
 " Were desirous to take a whole empire in hand :
 " Those who yesterday pick'd up a living by play,
 " Saw themselves nearly masters of millions to-day.
 " To India my Master his relatives sends,
 " And peoples the East with necessitous friends.
 " In thought all the BURKES of HIBERNIA feast,
 " On the honey and milk overflowing the East.
 " How the stockholders storm'd, and how loud were their cries !
 " POLL stopp'd up his ears, and he blinded his eyes.

" How oft at this flagrant injustice I rail'd !
 " I admonish'd him often, but never prevail'd.
 " POLL instructed her party to prove to the King,
 " That to break royal faith was an innocent thing ;
 " That necessity justifies every measure ;
 " And there must be necessity always for treasure.
 " 'Tis true the base stratagem fail'd of success ;
 " But POLL's criminality is not the less."

As soon as this article drew to a close,

The Lady in fable with confidence rose :

" May your Lordship believe, what I often protest,
 " The advice I gave Master was meant for the best.
 " My Master of cash has been always in need ;
 " He has try'd many schemes, but they did not succeed.
 " The Directors, rich rogues ! had so loaded their paunches
 " With cod's-head and shoulders, with pasties and haunches ;
 " So muddled their heads and their senses with drinking,
 " That they lost all the powers of acting and thinking,
 " And never perceiv'd that their vessel was sinking.
 " But EDMUND, whose head, like his belly, is clear,
 " Except now and then, when he dines with a peer,
 " Came forward, and offer'd their vessel to steer.

" 'Twas

" 'Twas but reason and justice, that Fox should eject
 " Those Directors that wanted the skill to direct.
 " And since I have prov'd, when the stomach is full,
 " That the head is in general clouded and dull,
 " It was fit BURKE and Fox, with their friends should succeed,
 " Whose wit and invention were sharpen'd by need."

Here the black Lady ceas'd, and the Plaintiff in white,
 With zeal unabated returned to the fight.

" My Lord the next article is to accuse her
 " Of degrading BURKE down to the rank of a bruifer;
 " Thro' POLL he engaged in an infamous job,
 " With SHERRY and others, in raising a mob;
 " With the Blackguards of Westminster form'd a connexion,
 " And by bludgeons and cudgels obtained the Election:
 " Some died of their wounds with ineffable anguish,
 " Some crippled for life in the Hospitals languish,
 " Whole nights POLL was busy'd in vamping up slander,
 " To publish against a great Naval Commander;
 " And to prove that Lord HOOD's dealing death and destruction
 " To the Foe, was less worth than JACK TOWNSEND's seduction;
 " Those

“ Those who serve with effect the King, Country or State,
 “ Are with POLL the perpetual objects of hate.
 “ On this principle ’tis, she persuades BURKE to join
 “ Those who ruin’d their Country, Lord NORTH, and BURGOYNE ;
 “ On this principle RODNEY was snatch’d from his Fleet,
 “ After giving the French that decisive defeat.
 “ On this principle HASTINGS has long been abus’d,
 “ And is now by my Master and party accus’d.
 Here the white Lady ceas’d, and POLL rose to reply,
 “ That my Master turn’d bruiser, I flatly deny.
 “ Indeed, he was not so imprudently bold,
 “ For giving Mendoza’s he’s rather too old :
 “ The principal weapon he us’d, was his Tongue,
 “ To direct, and encourage his Friends that were young.
 “ If EDMUND and party the Electors withstood ;
 “ It was only those Villains that voted for HOOD ;
 “ And as to the use, that was made of the bludgeons,
 “ They were arguments fit for those thick-skull’d Curmudgeons,
 “ Who by no other means, could be made comprehend,
 “ ’Twas their duty and int’rest to poll for our Friend :
 “ Those fools ’tis a Candidate’s province to thrash,
 “ Who will vote for him, neither thro’ friendship nor cash :

“ And

" And as to that Admiral's beating the foe,
 " 'Tis quite an old story, near eight years ago :
 " If Westminster once was so weak as to chuse him,
 " They have now learnt from us sense enough to refuse him ;
 " Nor need they lament for the Blood that was shed ;
 " There were voters enough, though some thousands were dead."
 POLL ended, and up her antagonist sprung,
 Again to unbridle her vehement Tongue.

" I accuse POLL of aiming a horrible wound
 " At old *England*, by preaching up doctrines unsound.
 " This jilt, who had still been for clipping the wings,
 " For curtailing the pow'r, nay for starving of Kings,
 " Declar'd 'twas the Orator's place to convince
 " The House that they ought not to limit the Prince.
 " Those Whigs who kept holy the last Revolution,
 " Who mind not their own, but the State's constitution ;
 " Who at fam'd *Runnymede* would a pillar erect,
 " To tell what tyrannical Kings may expect ;
 " Who set Kingly honour and faith at defiance ;
 " Can place on a Prince an implicit reliance.

" My

" My feelings, indeed, it most horribly shocks,
 " When I see Master change, with the changes of Fox ;
 " Once that Man of the People, of Parliament since,
 " But now become suddenly Man of the Prince ;
 " That *any Man's Man*, as it answers his end ;
 " The cajoler of many, but nobody's friend ;
 " Whose abilities boundless necessity whets ;
 " Who is up to all rights but the payment of debts."

MOLL ceas'd, and thus POLLY Judge MINOS address'd :

" The advice which I gave was assuredly best.
 " Remember, if EDMUND ne'er gave his support
 " To the measures adopted by GEORGE and his Court,
 " You cannot, with justice, his conduct condemn,
 " Since GEORGE and his Court have done nothing for him.
 " To this very moment, he never has seen
 " The inside of that House which belongs to the Queen ;
 " This hardship, the Prince has endeavoured to soften,
 " And to Dine at Pall Mall has invited him often.
 " My Master, 'tis certain, no confidence puts
 " In those who so wickedly screw up his guts.

- " Since the day he the office of Paymaster lost,
 " His face looks as if it were bitten by frost.
 " But now, if the Prince get unlimited sway,
 " My Master and friends come again into play ;
 " Again shall his equipage cut a great dash,
 " As soon as the Paymaster fingers the cash.
 " If EDMUND would sever the King from the Crown,
 " Remember, the King hurl'd the Orator down.
 " An office he had, but the Monarch displac'd him ;
 " Not only depriv'd him of bread, but disgrac'd him.
 " I even appeal to the Lady in white ;
 " Who needs must confess that our Master was right.
 " This opinion my Master and I have held long,
 " And I trust that your Lordship will not think it wrong :
 " 'Twere better the Country and King were destroy'd,
 " Than EDMUND be poor, or remain unemploy'd."

Here ended the eloquent Lady in black,

And MOLL rose again to renew the attack :

But her look, and the change of her manner, express'd

That something still sharper corroded her breast,

And with voice firm and stern, she the Court thus address'd :

" My

“ My Lord, I have accus’d that wretch of crimes
 “ Unparalell’d in these, or former times :
 “ But the concluding charge I mean to bring,
 “ Did from a fountain so polluted spring,
 “ As makes her still more horrid to the eye,
 “ If black like her’s can take a deeper dye :
 “ This guilty monster has contriv’d a plan
 “ To work the ruin of an injur’d man ;
 “ Who rose to eminence, without support
 “ From venal, base connections with a Court ;
 “ Continued in the Hour of deep distress
 “ For Talents which had long insur’d success,
 “ The only Governor, NORTH* dare oppose,
 “ To faction’s fury, and her numerous Foes ;
 “ In every Clime while ENGLAND loss sustain’d,
 “ Her Empire in the East, this Man maintain’d ;

“ He

* When future historians shall write the history of the present times, there will be some facts of so extraordinary a nature to relate, that unless they are authenticated beyond the possibility of contradiction, they will obtain no credit from our posterity. Amongst the rest, the conduct of Lord NORTH to Mr. HASTINGS will appear conspicuous indeed. This Nobleman, in the year 1773, proposed that Mr. HASTINGS should be appointed Governor-General of *Bengal*, under a Parliamentary commission. In proposing him, Lord NORTH pronounced a very fine eulogium upon his character ; and the appointment passed through

- “ He drove a faithless subject from the Land,
 “ Subdu’d rebellion, and restor’d Command.
 “ The deep resources of his mind display’d,
 “ When distant Colonies requir’d his aid.
 “ For well form’d plans when treasure was deny’d,
 “ The urgent want he privately supply’d :

the House of Commons without a dissenting voice. This was in a season of profound peace. In the disputes which unfortunately broke out in *Bengal*, Lord NORTH took part, in a certain degree, with General CLAVERING and Colonel MONSON; and he intrigued in *Leaden-ball-street*, to procure the removal of Mr. HASTINGS: but being defeated in a great measure through the exertions of the *ROCKINGHAM Party*, he entered into a negociation with Colonel MACLEANE for the resignation of Mr. HASTINGS. Soon after this curious compromise, to which neither Mr. HASTINGS nor General CLAVERING were parties, accounts were received in *England* of Colonel MONSON’s death; and in April 1778, of the death of General CLAVERING. In December 1778, the term for which Mr. HASTINGS held his appointment being nearly expired, Lord NORTH himself proposed to Parliament to continue Mr. HASTINGS for one year longer; in 1779, for another year; and in 1781, for ten years.—On being reminded of these circumstances by Major SCOTT in the House of Commons, Lord NORTH, in his place, acknowledged the facts, and gave the most substantial reasons for his conduct, which were these:—That Mr. HASTINGS was a man who possessed vigour, abilities, and the confidence of the East India Company, and that he re-appointed him, in time of war, and in seasons of great calamity, difficulty, and danger. yet, strange to tell, Lord NORTH attended the proceedings against Mr. HASTINGS, whenever his health permitted him, voted against him in the *Benares Charge*, and his eldest son is one of the Managers of the Impeachment!!!!

“ The

" The Public welfare ever he pursued,
 " And risked his safety for his Country's good.
 " Now EDMUND prosecutes him, strange to tell,
 " Because he serv'd his masters long and well ;
 " Whilst he who lost an empire in the West,
 " By EDMUND and his friends has been carest.
 " Ungrateful monster ! whom succeeding times
 " Shall stigmatize, when suff'ring for his crimes.
 " He joins the motley Faction, to pursue
 " The man to whom the fairest fame is due :
 " Shall we forget, that when his Generals fail'd,
 " When EDMUND threaten'd, and the Party rail'd,
 " NORTH cheer'd the people, sinking with distress,
 " By loudly boasting of this man's success ?
 " Years after years, with unremitting zeal,
 " Has BURKE employ'd to form a specious tale ;
 " To shew some error, or expose some fault,
 " Has through a long administration fought :
 " With partial hand from old Records extracts,
 " To spread false colours, or mistate the facts ;
 " The laws, the customs of a distant clime
 " Are search'd, to prove him guilty of a crime ;

" First

“ First Indian prejudice is made the guide,
 “ And then by British law, the Cause is try’d.

“ A single instance may suffice to show,
 “ How far POLL urg’d the Orator to go ;
 “ He call’d to witness all the powers above,
 “ His zeal arose, from purest, social love :
 “ That NEMESIS had rous’d her warrior knight,
 “ For human Nature’s violated right,
 “ That Envy, Malice, which too oft infest
 “ The minds of men, were strangers to his breast ;
 “ Against the Pleader’s privilege to lie,
 “ I bind myself, said BURKE, by ev’ry tie,
 “ Plain simple facts will I expose to view,
 “ Nor use one word, which is not strictly true.
 “ Attention, credit, EDMUND thus bespoke,
 “ But the next minute his engagement broke,
 “ And all his adjurations turn’d to smoke.

“ Some Indian manuscripts as he perus’d,
 “ He found that certain farmers had accus’d
 “ One DEBY-SING of violated trust,
 “ Of various cruelties, and brutal lust ;

“ On these my Master seizes, and enlarges,
 “ *Though wholly foreign from his former charges,*
 “ With studied gesture, and selected phrase,
 “ Unheard of scenes of horror he displays;
 “ Insolvent debtors, here oppression strips,
 “ And there extortion shakes her bloody whips :
 “ The father and the son together binds,
 “ At once to scourge their bodies, and their minds ;
 “ Describes the fatal engine, made to wrest
 “ The tender nipple from the female breast ;
 “ The parts which decency forbids to name,
 “ Their use perverted, and expos'd to flame :
 “ From vengeance due to actions so deprav'd,
 “ His Friend,' said EDMUND, ‘ has the Pris'ner sav'd ;
 “ 'Twas thus the Pagan robb'd the starving poor,
 “ The Christian thus, to Justice shut the door :
 “ Was trust imperial ever thus abus'd ?
 “ Of deeds so foul was ever man accus'd ?”
 “ But mark, my Lord, that very same narration,
 “ From which my Master garbled information,
 “ Contain'd its full, and perfect refutation ;

}
 “ It

" It prov'd, that HASTINGS never did defend
 " The man whom EDMUND falsely call'd his friend ;
 " Nor aid, nor friendship, could the Rajah boast,
 " Displac'd unheard, his power at once he lost ;
 " HASTINGS next call'd the sufferers to bring
 " Their proofs against the culprit DEBY SING ;
 " A new administration then took place,
 " Theirs was the duty to adjudge the case ;
 " With due solemnity they try'd the cause,
 " No proof appear'd of violated laws,
 " Or female sufferings, before the Court,
 " 'Twas chiefly calumny, or vague report.
 " Nor blame, nor censure could, as EDMUND knew,
 " Be fix'd on HASTINGS, had each charge been true ;
 " BURKE'S crimes as well might criminate the King,
 " As HASTINGS be reproach'd for DEBY SING.
 " This MORAL CONSCIENCE urg'd a thousand times,
 " When EDMUND form'd his catalogue of crimes :
 " I strove in vain, and so did Major SCOTT,
 " T'enforce retraction—EDMUND heard us not ;
 " A refutation by the Major writ,
 " Unread was answer'd by affected wit.

" I never

" I never read, says BURKE, what proves me wrong,
 " Such odious tasks to enemies belong :
 " By these base arts the cause he has maintain'd,
 " And these the falsehoods HASTINGS has sustain'd.
 " For acts so base, the Court, tho' once misled,
 " Will hurl down Vengeance on my Master's head.
 " 'Twas POLL's advice, my Lord, that EDMUND took,
 " When Justice, Truth and Honour he forsook ;
 " Be her's the punishment, and her's the shame,
 " Let MORAL CONSCIENCE spotless keep her name.
 " Here, by your Lordship's favor, I propose,
 " To rest my proofs, and here the charges close.
 " To these alone, to prove her guilt I trust,
 " Before a judge infallible and just,

Then POLL arose and thus a speech began,

" I own the merit of this injured man.
 " But since my enemy has chang'd her style,
 " Permit me also to declaim a while.
 " In vindication of myself, I draw
 " Strong proof from nature, and from nature's law.

F

He

- " He for his country did, I think 'tis true,
- " All that was possible for man to do :
- " But grant, his service made a nation thrive,
- " Say what advantage thence did BURKE derive ?
- " What was the principle, and what the cause,
- " The stockholders bestow'd such high applause ?
- " What but self-interest made them kindly greet him ?
- " What but self-interest makes my Master hate him ?
- " The Public, public good alone regard,
- " Their foes they punish, and their friends reward.
- " If in the public this be right, it must
- " Be in an individual full as just.
- " Had HASTINGS serv'd my Lord with half that zeal,
- " He manifested for the public weal,
- " One half the money he the public gave,
- " Had made my Master his devoted slave.
- " Then had great Edmund readily stepp'd forth,
- " On all occasions to assert his worth ;
- " So had he been as able and as willing,
- " To prove him Angel then, as now a Villain.
- " But how did HASTINGS act, and all his friends ?
- " Did they not always thwart my Master's ends ?

" Did

- " Did HASTINGS during his administration,
- " Give one Rupee to Master's poor Relation ?
- " His friends, his agents, and his Indian crew,
- " Our party and our India Bill o'erthrew ;
- " Can BURKE, can FOX, can SHERIDAN forget,
- " How long they groan'd beneath a load of debt :
- " If they are poor and wretched all their lives,
- " More wretched they must be, if HASTINGS thrives.
- " Revenge and interest are the calls of nature,
- " Alike in man, and every other creature.
- " Suppose that EDMUND from the truth departs,
- " Convicting HASTINGS by infidious arts ;
- " Whether by truth or falsehood he succeed,
- " A prosperous issue, justifies the deed ;
- " For so 'tis written in the Whiggish Creed.

- " The affecting picture which my Master drew,
- " Of female sufferings, is I own, untrue ;
- " 'Twas my device, and fortunately tried,
- " To gain at least the Ladies to our side.
- " With melting grief, to fill each gentler breast,
- " Excluding reason that unwelcome guest ;

“ To turn attention from the weaker parts,
 “ To drown Men’s judgments, in their bleeding hearts.
 “ And had that instant clos’d the prisoner’s fate,
 “ To us the advantage had been truly great ;
 “ But vain alas ! my skilful Master painted,
 “ In vain compassion wept, and beauty fainted ;
 “ Yet though it fail’d, I glory in the plot,
 “ And want no Monitor in MAJOR SCOTT ;
 “ If MOLL’s intrusion justly we condemn,
 “ ’Twas surely damn’d impertinence in him :
 “ My Master swears, that MOLL’s enough to stun him,
 “ Shall SCOTT turn conscience too, and come to dun him :
 “ Perhaps he thought we err’d, and did not know it,
 “ If so, I grant, ’twas kind in him to shew it.

“ But why should he, who no advantage draws
 “ From truth, adhere to truth and plead her cause ?
 “ I grant indeed, that all mankind unite,
 “ In saying falsehood’s wrong, and truth is right :
 “ And why ? Because not one would be deceiv’d,
 “ And all, though false themselves, would be believ’d.
 “ Hence every man but moderately wise,
 “ Will preach up that, wherein his interest lies.

“ From

- “ From virtue’s path not one but often swerves,
 “ With silent self-applause, if none observes.
 “ Truth all admire, and falsehood all detest;
 “ But all use either as it suits them best :
 “ And sure that Artist were a stupid fool,
 “ That has a choice, and takes an useless tool.
 “ Who ever such a bungling joiner knew,
 “ As took an axe to saw, or saw to hew ?
 “ ’Tis in this point we servants disagree ;
 “ I seek his present good, his future, she :
 “ She thinks religion absolutely binding ;
 “ I think it priestcraft, and not worth the minding :
 “ She bids him be to virtue firm and true,
 “ I bid him preach and praise it, not pursue.
 “ Here then, my Lord, I finish my defence,
 “ Happy in having prov’d my innocence ;
 “ Happy in having had to plead my cause
 “ Before a perfect judge of general laws.”

Here finish’d POLL her labour’d, long defence,
 And smil’d, as conscious of her innocence.

Then MINOS, viewing MOLL with eye benign,
Observ'd, for her 'twas needful to rejoin.

“ To guilt like POLL's, to principles so bad

“ As her's, it is impossible to add.

“ To ruin all the world her doctrines tend :

“ If she exists, society must end.”

Thus spoke the Judge :—The Cryer bawl'd aloud

“ Hear sentence!—Silence! silence! in the croud.”

Then MINOS sternly ey'd the fable dame :

“ Thee I condemn to everlasting flame :

“ POLL and her Whiggish Creed shall fare the same.”

The Judge had not compleated the decree,

When POLLY falling on her trembling knee,

Pray'd leave to offer up a special plea :

“ To arrest the judgment founded on conviction,

“ Hear my demurrer to the jurisdiction,

“ Your Lordship cannot legally deprive,

“ My Master of his Servant whilst alive :

“ 'Twere premature to pass a final sentence,

“ Which yet may be revers'd by true repentance.

The plea was strong and readily allow'd;
 POLL humbly thank'd his Excellence and bow'd;
 " With what has pass'd my Master I'll acquaint;
 " No doubt he will repent, and prove a faint."
 The audience pleas'd, and laughing at the joke,
 Mov'd off;—the Court adjourn'd;—and I awoke.

111749

ONEIROPHILOS.

F I N I S.

1871

The first was from the...
The second was from the...
The third was from the...
The fourth was from the...
The fifth was from the...
The sixth was from the...
The seventh was from the...
The eighth was from the...
The ninth was from the...
The tenth was from the...

THE END

THE END

11